

diseases of economic importance. The author discusses the widespread nature of established viroids and their serious potential threat to agriculture. He also provides a very stimulating discussion of future research problems and approaches, including the intriguing possibility that certain "slow viruses" causing human diseases might actually be caused by viroids. Although the primary audience for this book will consist of plant pathologists, medical and veterinary researchers, virologists, and molecular biologists, many entomologists, particularly insect pathologists will find this subject of considerable interest. The exhaustive bibliography and subject index, totaling 27 pages, add to the value of this definitive treatise. The book is a joy to read and it will be valuable for many years to come both as a text and a reference.

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NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY
LXXXVII(4), 1979, p. 320

BOOK REVIEW

Twelve Little Housemates. Karl von Frisch. Pergamon Press, Oxford, New York. 1979. 155 pp. \$12. Hard cover; \$6. Paperback.

The 4th (1955) German edition of the popular book by Nobel laureate Karl von Frisch has been translated into English in 1960 and reprinted several times. Now the enlarged and revised English edition has been published for the Pergamon International Library of Science. The book is written for lay people in a non-technical, humorous style and it is intended for the general public. Although not specifically aimed at entomologists, it nevertheless belongs to the personal library of every entomologist. The 12 invertebrate "housemates" are the housefly, gnats, the flea, the bed bug, lice, the clothes moth, the cockroach, aphids, ants, silverfish, spiders and ticks. The book was aimed primarily at the European reader and the author did not include termites, practically unknown in Central Europe, but of considerable importance in other parts of the world. Here are samples of some subtitles: "How to recognize a fly"; "How flies help doctors"; "How one can get lice, and how to get rid of them by methods other than those of gas warfare"; and on cockroaches: "Mouths that bite, lick, suck and sting." The book is enjoyable and educational not only for children but also for adults, including scientists.

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